

REMARKS

Responsive to the Office action dated May 5, 2004, applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims based upon the above-identified amendments and the remarks which follow. In the Office action, the Examiner requested submission of a substitute specification, and applicant will submit in a separate communication the substitute specification that was approved in connection with prosecution of the parent application, which application issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,065,000.

As to prior-art-based rejections, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 3 and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,752,054 to Garber et al. Applicant disagrees with the Examiner's conclusion but has chosen to cancel without prejudice the rejected claims, which claims will be subject of a continuation application. Applicant has focused the present application on amended claim 4, and new claims 10-12.

The Examiner concluded that original claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Amended claim 4 is consistent with that requirement, but clarifies the last two terms in the original claim. New claims 10-12 depend from claim 4 and clarify further patentable features of the invention.

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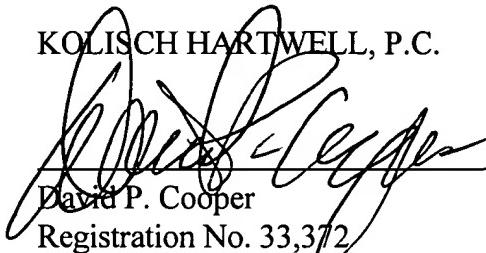
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Upon receipt of the substitute specification which applicant will send in a separate communication as noted above, applicant respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

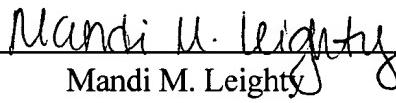
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 5, 2004.



Mandi M. Leighty